

JUN 15 1971

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

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TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

June 11, 1971

I disapprove, veto, and am filing with the Secretary of State, House Bill 743.

This bill would allow junior college districts to be enlarged to cover all of the territory contained in the county in which it is located. The purpose of allowing the junior college district to be so enlarged is to establish a broader tax base, to obtain revenue for the operation of said junior college district.

However, I find the method of enlarging junior college districts contained in this bill to be unconscionable. This bill calls for a county-wide election concerning the boundaries of a junior college district for taxation purposes. If House Bill 743 had called for an election of approval of only the voters in the proposed annexed territory, it would be much fairer to all of the affected parties. Therefore, in light of the fact that this bill would allow cities where junior college districts are located to impose such districts on rural areas without giving these areas an effective chance to voice their dissent, I feel that such provisions should not be the law of this State.

Students from the rural areas in these counties, who attend such a junior college, help to pay their own way due to higher out-of-district tuition. If such a proposal is necessary to support the junior college districts of this state, it should be designed in such a way so as to provide that the people who are to be affected by the annexation of territory will be able to determine for themselves whether they wish to be included in the junior college district or not.

House Bill 743 was received May 27, 1971, less than ten days prior to the adjournment of the Regular Session of the 62nd Legislature. In

accordance with Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I am filing this proclamation together with the bill, in the office of the Secretary of State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the Seal of State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this the 11th day of June, A. D., 1971.

PRESTON SMITH

GOVERNOR OF TEXAS

By the Governor

Secretary of State